

CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East Germany REPORTTOPIC Koenigsbrueck Training Grounds and First Gds Meck Army Posts

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 11 November 1954

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REFERENCES

PAGES 04 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. Prior to 24 October 1954, the Nachrichten Schule (1521) in Koenigsbrueck was occupied by more than 500 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and equipped with 30 to 40 T-34 tanks. The tanks almost daily left the installation toward Neues Lager(1523) in the early morning and returned in the evening. <sup>1</sup>
2. Between 10 and 24 October, intensive activities were observed in Neues Lager. Units continually arrived at the camp and other units left for the summer camp on the road to Schwepnitz. Exercises of small units including firing practices with infantry and artillery weapons were held daily in the training area. On 18 and 19 October, unusually heavy noise of battle including reports of heavy artillery pieces was heard from the training grounds, while intensive flying of single-engine and twin-engine aircraft was observed over the training area. The daily exercises usually began in the Kamenz area and extended as far as the training grounds. <sup>2</sup>
3. During the night of 10 October, several troop trains were unloaded at the Koenigsbrueck railroad station. The detrained units left toward the north. At about 0530 on 11 October, 8 guns, presumably 100-mm AT guns, were unloaded, and 10 trucks towing 76-mm AA guns left toward the north. On 11 October, three empty trains were seen at the railroad station. An undetermined number of units were reportedly detrained at the Koenigsbrueck-Ost railroad station in the evening of 11 October. In the evening of 10 October, 12 guns and approximately 12 trucks left the railroad station. during the night of 10 October, a train of approximately 36 boxcars occupied by young soldiers was unloaded in a woods between Schmorkau and Schwepnitz. The soldiers left for the Walddlager near Schwepnitz. Observations at the Koenigsbrueck railroad station included: 13 October. A shipment of 23 trucks and 12 boxcarloads of soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets was detrained and left toward the north. 14 October. At 1800, approximately 20 armored personnel carriers approximately 30 trucks

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[ ] 8 light and 8 medium mortars and 12 boxcarloads of soldiers and equipment were entrained.

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15 October. A shipment with approximately 12 armored personnel carriers [ ] 4 boxcars occupied by troops and several trucks and 1 tank truck [ ] was seen standing at the station.

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18 October. A train carrying 56 heavily soiled trucks came from the direction of Schwepnitz and went toward Dresden. 3

4. At about 1415 on 19 October, a column of 10 trucks [ ] left Schmorkau toward Koenigsbrueck. Between 1500 and 1700 on the same day, approximately 50 trucks with equipment and soldiers left Neues Lager toward Koenigsbrueck. 3

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5. Between 11 and 26 October, the Koenig-Georg Kaserne (1304) in Dresden was occupied by approximately 1,500 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets including some with tank insignia. On 23 October, approximately 25 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets received instruction on a T-34/85 tank in the training area northwest of the installation. 4

6. The occupation strength of the barracks installation in Dresden - Weixdorf (1315) which had apparently been occupied by approximately 2,000 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets prior to late September, decreased continually after early October.

[ ] basic training had been completed and [ ] the soldiers had been subsequently transferred to various posts. During the night of 10 October, a shipment of recruits arrived on the spur track of the installation. After the arrival of the recruits, the installation was again occupied by 2,500 to 3,000 soldiers. This occupation strength remained unchanged until 20 October. 5

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7. Prior to 25 October, the barracks installation in Bischofswerda (1141) was occupied by not more than 250 soldiers of a tank unit wearing red-bordered black epaulets and a motor transport unit. During the month of October, the soldiers conducted driving school practices with up to 5 trucks. A 76-mm AT gun and 6 armored personnel carriers were twice observed in the yard. [ ]

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8. On 19 October, a train with a tank unit was seen at the Gaschwitz railroad station south of Leipzig. The engine of the train was headed toward the south. [ ] the shipment was later unloaded at the Frauendorf railroad station near Zeithain. On 23 and 24 October, the units stationed in the Panzer Kaserne (1161) in Borna returned to their installation. 7

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9. During the night of 14/15 October, several troop trains were unloaded at the Oberer Bahnhof in Grimma. On 19 October, the Strassburg Kaserne (1402) in Grimma was occupied by 800 to 1,000 soldiers and the Elsner Kaserne (1401) by 500 to 600 soldiers. 8

10. On 17 October, fresh imprints of tank tracks led from the Rueckmarsdorf railroad station to the Flak Kaserne (8241) in Leipzig-Schoenau. [ ] 20 to 25 tanks were unloaded at the railroad station after 2000 on 16 October. At noon on 12 October, approximately 10 trucks with equipment and baggage and 6 M-13 rocket launchers [ ]

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[ ] entered the installation from the direction of Miltitz southeast of Leipzig. On 23 October, the installation was occupied to capacity by an estimated 1,400 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank, artillery and motor transport insignia. 9

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11. On 13 October, the Infanterie Kaserne (1721) in Oschatz was only partially occupied. Approximately 200 soldiers received training in the barracks yard in the morning and approximately 350 soldiers trained in the afternoon. 10

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1. [ ] Comment. [ ] arrival at this installation of a tank unit, presumably the 44th Gds Tank Regt of the 11th Gds Tank Div on 29 September. [ ] Since the fall exercise of the division in the Zeithain area terminated about 27 September, the information appears credible.

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2. [ ] Comment. Some of the movements observed in Neues Lager between 10 and 24 October were previously reported. [ ]

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[ ] these movements and the activities at the training grounds were probably connected with the exercises of these divisions which were still under way in mid-October.

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3. [ ] Comment. [ ] 5 troop trains went from Altengrabow to Koenigsbrueck on 10 October. The trains carried elements of the U/1 Arty Brig and, possibly, the 4th Gds AAA Div which returned to the post. Other units of the latter unit were at Wustrow at that time. The loading and departure of troops from Koenigsbrueck and the summer camps on the Schmorkau-Schwepnitz road after 14 October agree with information on the retransfer to their winter quarters of the units involved. On 10 October, a shuttle train with recruits arrived from the east, proceeded toward Cottbus and, possibly, was unloaded near Schmorkau during the night of 10 October. [ ]

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4. [ ] Comment. The 4th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt of the 11th Gds Tank Div possibly returned to the Koenig-Georg Kaserne.

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5. [ ] Comment. Compare with information [ ] on a personnel exchange center of the [ ] in the Weixdorf Kaserne. [ ]

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6. [ ] Comment. [ ] The 9th Gds Motor Bn of the division is possibly stationed in Bischofswerda in addition to the unidentified Motor Trans Bn.

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7. [ ] Comment. Preparations for the return of the units were observed in Borna as early as 8 October. The 1st Gds Tank Regt of the 8th Gds Mecz Div was stationed in Borna prior to the spring of 1954. [ ]

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8. [ ] Comment. Compare with similar information on the return of the troops to Grimma. [ ]

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9. [ ] Comment. [ ] Major elements of the tank battalion of the 19th Gds Mecz Regt of the 8th Gds Mecz Div were probably detained on 16 October. [ ]

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10. [ ] Comment. The partial occupation of the installation indicates that units of the 9th Tank Div from Oschatz were still in the Zeithain area on 13 October.

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